

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 095276
ORIGIN DOE-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-07 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01
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TAGS: ENRG, TGEN, TECH, US, UR

SUBJECT: US-USSR ATOMIC ENERGY AGREEMENT: FIFTH JCM
(07.00)

1. THIS MESSAGE IS PRELIMINARY REPORT ON FIFTH US-USSR
JCM ON ATOMIC ENERGY HELD ON SCHEDULE APRIL 5-6 IN
WASHINGTON, D.C. THE MEETING WAS COMPLETED AS PLANNED ON
APRIL 5 WHICH LEFT APRIL 6 OPEN FOR FINAL PROTOCOL
NEGOTIATIONS AND THE THORNE/PETROSYANTS SIGNING CEREMONY.
(ON THE MORNING OF APRIL 6, PETROSYANTS AND MOROZOV ALSO
MET AND LATER HAD LUNCH WITH REPS. TEAGUE AND WYDLER OF
THE HOUSE S&T COMMITTEE.) MR. THORNE HOSTED A LUNCHEON
AND A DINNER FOR THE SOVIET DELEGATION ON APRIL 5. THERE
WAS A RECEPTION FOR THE US DELEGATION AT THE SOVIET
EMBASSY ON APRIL 6. SOVIETS ARE NOW TOURING US NUCLEAR
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PAGE 02 STATE 095276

FACILITIES WITH HILL, MCGAFFIGAN, BLACKLIN AND AFANASENKO,
(THORNE'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS ASSISTANT).

2. RECORD OF THE JCM IS BEING POUCHED. HIGHLIGHTS
FOLLOW.

FUNDAMENTAL PROPERTIES OF MATTER: BOTH SIDES NOTED THE

UTILITY OF JOINT WORK AT FERMILAB AND OTHER EXCHANGES. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE EXTENSIVE USE OF THE TELEX LINK

BETWEEN THE CO-CHAIRMEN OF THE FPM JOINT COORDINATING COMMITTEE HAS BEEN USEFUL IN FACILITATING EXCHANGES. DURING THE MEETING, THE US SIDE NOTED THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING THE BEST EXPERTS ON BOTH SIDES PARTICIPATE IN THE EXCHANGES IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE MUTUAL BENEFITS. (THE SOVIETS HAVE NOT ALWAYS SENT THEIR BEST PHYSICISTS TO PARTICIPATE IN FPM EXCHANGES.) ISSUE OF THE VISA DENIAL FOR DR. STERN WAS ADDRESSED SEPARATELY WITH PETROSYANTS AND DEALT WITH INDIRECTLY BY STATEMENT IN THE JCM THAT VISAS SHOULD BE ISSUED ON BASIS OF SCIENTIFIC QUALIFICATIONS ONLY.

CONTROLLED THERMONUCLEAR FUSION: THE JCM RECORD NOTES THE US SIDE HAS APPROVED AND THE SOVIET SIDE IS STILL CONSIDERING APPROVAL OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT US-USSR WORKING GROUP ON MATERIALS AND IRRADIATION EFFECTS. THE RECORD ALSO NOTES THAT NEGOTIATIONS ARE STILL IN PROGRESS CONCERNING THE FEASIBILITY OF CONDUCTING A JOINT EXPERIMENT AT LASL ON IMPLoding LINERS. US SIDE SPECIFICALLY LISTED FOUR PROBLEM AREAS, COMMUNICATIONS (LATE RESPONSES, ETC.), VISA DIFFICULTIES (INCLUDING LATE ISSUANCE EVEN WHEN APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED EARLY), ACCESS TO FACILITIES OFTEN INADEQUATE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 095276

(E.G. PODALSK CABLE INSTITUTE), AND LAST MINUTE SCHEDULE CHANGES BY SOVIETS.

FAST BREEDER REACTORS: THE RECORD NOTES WITH SATISFACTION THE EXCHANGE OF STEAM GENERATOR TUBING AND CLADDING MATERIALS FOR FUEL ELEMENTS FOR TESTING IN RESPECTIVE LABS DURING 1977. THE RECORD ALSO NOTES THE JOINT COMMITTEE'S APPROVAL TO EXTEND COOPERATION IN FBR TO AREAS NOT PREVIOUSLY COVERED. US SIDE WILL FORWARD BY JULY 1 A PROPOSAL FOR EXTENDING THE COOPERATION.

OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE, THE JCM NOTED THAT THE SOVIET SIDE INDICATED THAT IT WOULD BE UNABLE TO TEST A HOCKEY STICK TYPE EVAPORATOR IN THE BN-350 REACTOR UNDER THE CONDITIONS SPECIFIED BY THE US BEFORE 1981. FURTHERMORE, POWER COULD NOT BE DIVERTED WITHIN THAT TIME FRAME FOR TESTING PURPOSES. BOTH SIDES THEREFORE AGREED TO POSTPONE FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THIS TEST UNTIL THE BN-350 CAN MEET US CONDITIONS FOR TESTING.

LWR SAFETY: THE RECORD NOTES THE MUTUAL UTILITY OF

COOPERATION IN THIS AREA AND NOTES THAT THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND ELECTRIFICATION WILL COORDINATE THE PROGRAM FOR THE USSR AND THAT NRC WILL COORDINATE THE PROGRAM FOR THE US. IT WAS AGREED THAT BOTH SIDES WOULD CONSIDER

THE POSSIBLE TRANSFER OF COOPERATION TO THE ENERGY AGREEMENT.

SPENT FUEL STORAGE: IT WAS AGREED THAT JOINT R&D IN THE FIELDS OF SPENT FUEL STORAGE, TRANSPORTATION, AND WASTE MANAGEMENT COULD BE A FIRST STEP IN COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. US SIDE AGREED TO COMMENT ON SOVIET PROPOSALS ON THE THREE TOPICS BY JULY 15.

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PAGE 04 STATE 095276

THERMIONICS: THE RECORD NOTES THAT FORMS OF COOPERATION SHOULD BE AGREED BY CORRESPONDENCE BY OCTOBER 1978.

SIXTH MEETING: WILL BE HELD IN USSR IN SECOND HALF OF 1979. CHRISTOPHER

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